

# **CATTLE HANDLING FACILITIES INVESTMENT AREA**

*(Approved June 15, 2001)*

*(Updated March 20, 2009)*



This document provides eligible investments and is considered to be minimum standards by which an investment area is to be implemented.

Counties shall place a dollar cap on the maximum cost-share of a producer up to \$7,500 for the 12-month period from the execution date of the legal agreement between the administrator and the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.

Funded participants shall adhere to all local, state, and federal rules and regulations.

Questions concerning these guidelines should be directed to the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy at (502) 564-4627. Application for funds must be directed through the local County Agricultural Development Council(s).

## **I. Eligible Cost Share Items**

### **A. Handling Facilities and Equipment for Beef Cattle**

#### **Prerequisites:**

- Minimum herd size: 10 mature cows (Average herd size in KY is 26), or backgrounding 35 cattle.
- If the application is successful the producer will be required to achieve Beef Quality Assurance certification.

#### **COST SHARE ITEMS**

1. **Commercial headgate**
2. **Holding chute**
3. **Squeeze**
4. **Curved or offset working chute**
5. **Crowding tub and gate**
6. **Gates and corral panels**
7. **Loading chute**

8. **Scale**
9. **Flooring:** Gravel, filter fabric, concrete.
10. **Creep gate, creep feeder, mineral feeder**
11. **Renovation of existing beef barns** or existing tobacco barns into beef facilities
12. **Construction of new beef facilities** where no buildings exist for renovation
13. **Animal waste handling** and **distribution equipment**
14. **Feed ways, forage mixers, feeding equipment systems, automatic waterers**
15. Equipment essential to provide **on-farm value-added processing**
16. **Computer hardware and software** to assist in performance record keeping and financial management
17. One-half the cost of participation in the **Kentucky Farm Business Management Program**
18. **Promotional and advertising materials** in an amount not to exceed \$1,000, excludes products or services provided by the KY Department of Agriculture or other state programs.
19. **On-farm direct-to-consumer sales** cost-share items:
  - a. Construction of new permanent structures or conversion of existing structures to be used for retail sale of product.  
  
[Meeting rooms, exposition centers, educational facilities and construction or improvements to buildings serving primarily as residences are not eligible cost share items.]
  - b. Site preparation including on-site utility extensions and officially permitted on-site waste treatment facilities
  - c. Refrigerated equipment for storing product (non-motorized)
  - d. Display equipment, including refrigerated equipment, to assist in selling of product

**Table 1. Specifications for cattle handling facilities**

Facility component	Recommended dimensions		
	Up to 600 lbs	600 to 1,200 lbs	Over 1,200 lbs
<b>Holding pen</b>			
Space per head (ft <sup>2</sup> )	14	17	20
Pen fence			
Height (in)	60	60	60
Post spacing (ft)	8	8	8
Post depth in ground (in)	30	30	30
<b>Crowding pen<sup>1</sup></b>			
Space per head (ft <sup>2</sup> )	6	10	12
Post spacing (ft)	4 - 6	4 - 6	4 - 6
Solid wall height (in)	45	50	50 - 60
<b>Working chute<sup>2</sup></b>			
Straight side (in)	18	22	28
Fully tapered - width at 32-in height (in)	18	22	28
Fully tapered - width at bottom (in)	15	16	18
Minimum length (ft)	20	20	20
Maximum curve angle (degrees)	15	15	15
Length for 16-foot outside radius (ft)	45	45	45
Solid wall height (in)	45	50	50 - 60
Overall height - top rail (in)	55	60	60 - 72
Chute fence			
Post spacing (ft)	6	6	6
Post depth in ground (in)	36	36	36
<b>Holding chute/squeeze</b>			
Height (in)	45	50	50
Width			
Straight sides (in)	18	22	28
V-shaped sides, width at bottom (in)	6 - 8	8 - 12	14 - 16
Length - with headgate (ft)	5	5 - 8	5 - 8
<b>Loading chute</b>			
Width (in)	26	26	26 - 30
Minimum length (ft)	12	12	12
Maximum rise (in/ft)	3.5	3.5	3.5

1 – Crowding pen: it must be of either circular shape (1/4 or 1/2 circle) or funnel shape.

2 – Working chute: it should be curved or offset (offset angle at 30° maximum).

## **B. Secure Lot or Pen for Mature Beef Bulls**

### **Prerequisites:**

- Minimum herd size: 10 mature cows (Average herd size in KY is 26).
- If the application is successful the producer will be required to achieve Beef Quality Assurance certification.

### **COST SHARE ITEMS**

1. **Fences:** Posts, 2 x 6 planks, 2 ½ inch pipe rails, and related materials.
2. **Bull or Heavy Duty Gates**
3. **Waterers**
4. **Feed bunk/trough**
5. **Flooring:** Gravel, filter fabric, concrete.

## **C. Pens for weaning calves**

This program is for constructing weaning calf pens. These funds shall not be used for building perimeter fences. In order to qualify for funding, location and design of the lot shall be consistent with the producer's Agricultural Water Quality Plans.

### **Prerequisites:**

- Minimum herd size: 10 mature cows (Average herd size in KY is 26).
- The producer should have a minimum working facility, such as crowding pen, working chute, holding chute, and headgate, before he applies for the weaning calves program.
- If the application is successful the producer will be required to achieve Beef Quality Assurance certification.

### **COST SHARE ITEMS**

1. **Fences:** Posts and 2 x 6 planks.
2. **Bull or Heavy Duty Gates**
3. **Waterers**
4. **Feed bunk/trough**
5. **Flooring:** Gravel, filter fabric, concrete.

## **D. Handling Facilities and Equipment for Dairy Cattle**

### **Prerequisites:**

- Minimum herd size: 40 milking cows/20 dairy heifers

### **COST SHARE ITEMS**

1. **Commercial headgate**
2. **Holding chute**
3. **Headlock stanchions**
4. **Catch lanes**
5. **Management rails**
6. **Gates for sorting and holding pens**
7. **Treatment stall**
8. **Treatment pens**
9. **Loading chute**
10. **Hoof trimming table or chute**
11. **Scale**

## **E. Temporary or Permanent Shade**

### **Prerequisites:**

- Producer must attend an educational session and provide a budget, prior to receiving cost-share funds.

**Material costs** necessary for the construction of temporary or permanent shade for cattle. (excludes trees)